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Agents.
L. P. FISHER, 29 and 21 New Merchants Exchange, is authorized to act as Agent for the Astorian in San Francisco.
Any friend who takes an interest in the prosperity of this region, is authorized to act as Agent for this paper, in procuring subscribers.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

—Large quantities of lumber is being turned out at Ferrill's mill in this city now day by day.

—Mayor Kippen is still unable to be about the city, though gradually improving in health, and can now sit up a portion of the time.

—The beautiful snow has all disappeared from the region about Astoria, and we have our usual amount of rain, and muddy streets are the order.

—Messrs. Patterson and Mudge have contracted for the first boat to be constructed at their new Astoria ship yard. It will be for use at one of the Columbia river fisheries.

—February 3, at 1 o'clock C. S. Wright will sell at auction, at Masonic Hall, a lot of Household furniture, and a fine cow, belonging to the estate of Capt. Alfred Crosby, deceased.

—Mr. C. H. Bain is at work on the new seats for Grace (Episcopal) Church. The design it a very pretty one, and the seats will add materially to the neat interior of that sacred edifice.

—Remember the entertainment by the boys in blue from Fort Cape Disappointment, at Spiritual Hall to-morrow evening. They are said to be worthy of your patronage—so; give them a bumper.

—The day of the disasters on Puget Sound, resulting in such fearful destruction of life and property, the wind here blew from the west. Capt. Smith came into the harbor with a steamer loaded to her guns with grain, however, notwithstanding the gale, and went alongside the vessel to receive it, but in the exercise of that judgment which should govern in all cases of like character, removed his steamer to a place of safety near shore.

—C. H. Dexter, of the Sea Side, has on exhibition at Arrigoni's a life-boat model constructed by his own hands, after his own ideas, which, it appears to our unsophisticated eye in marine architecture, is about the thing. It is a neat specimen of work, and is so shaped that it may be launched in any manner—thrown overboard, endwise, sidewise or otherwise—and will come out right side up, ready, baled dry, and fit for service. Dexter says he shall not apply for a patent on it, but will leave it free to all to use, and if it should be the means of saving only one life in ten years, he should feel compensated for his trouble and expense. This model will be handed over to Capt. Connor, of the Oriflamme, to-day, for inspection, improvement, or adoption, as the case may be. Capt. C.'s judgment will be good, and if he should be favorably impressed with the novelty, no doubt we shall soon see and hear more of Dexter's life-boat.

—A friend contributes the following item of information: "Near the middle of November last twenty-four packages of goods were shipped from San Francisco on the schooner W. H. Meyer for Astoria. About the first of January the goods arrived here on the steamer Diego Thompson, having been discharged from the vessel at Portland, after the removal of the ice blockade. When the owners of the Meyer learned that Portland was not a seaport between San Francisco and Astoria, they paid the return freight on the Diego, and had just 75 cents left clear on the lot. When a coaster forgets that Astoria is not located on the river above Portland, it is expensive business shipping to this port." Among this freight, which was sent around the Portland "horn," was the materials for the cushions to the Congregational Church pews, which was in our harbor (but not landed), in ample season to deck the seats for Christmas, as was contemplated. The Star Line would both accommodate shippers and save money, if masters would recollect that Astoria can be reached without attempting to sail 110 miles inland

where navigation is sometimes suspended by ice, and frequently impeded by shoals.

—The steamship California, for Sitka, with about twenty passengers for the new mines in British Columbia, lay at the dock here several hours on the outward passage last week. The subject of the mines in that locality is very generally discussed, but we hear of no persons afflicted with the mania to pull up stakes and be off, who hold permanent situations here now. With the information at hand our conviction is that it will not justify people to rush into that region unprepared for hasty return. The Evening News says: "Although no reliable news has been received from the Stickeen mines since the close of the season last fall, still many of our citizens are preparing to abandon profitable employment for the hope of amassing sudden wealth in the icy regions of the north. The history of all mining excitements on this coast has developed the fact that but very few of all the thousands who have followed them have ever realized their anticipations, and fully one half returned home dejected and hopelessly disappointed. Men holding situations should think twice before they should make up their minds to abandon them, and in all sincerity we say, let only those go who are unable to find profitable employment at home. The steamship Oriflamme brought up a large number of passengers, several of whom will embark upon the California for Fort Wrangle, prepared to make their way to the mines, and there is every probability that by the opening of Spring another vessel will have to be placed on the line in order to accommodate the people desirous of going thither."

Antiquity of Moses.

MAN'S EARLY APPEARANCE ON THIS EARTH—VIRGIN AND CHILD—AMERICA INHABITED FIFTY THOUSAND YEARS AGO.

BY E. TALMADGE.
Some few years ago in China, when some men were penetrating deep into the earth, they came upon ancient ruins, and the works of man, and among many strange things were the emblems of Christianity—the Cross, the Virgin and her new born child, with strong rays of light emanating from his head.

In the valley of the Ohio, among ancient ruins, were found the Virgin and child carved in ivory, and a Cross with a man nailed to it, composed of a metal that no one was able to define its properties or composition; also a trine cup, three Gods in one, and numerous articles of oriental origin.

Sir William Jones, while sojourning in Hindoostan, discovered in the sacred books of the Hindoo priests, a geographical description of North and South America, giving latitude and longitude of a copper mine, and a city called Tramba, about 70° north, in British North America, and since that time the ruins of a city and copper mine have been discovered, as the Hindoo writings located them. Sir William says the books containing these accounts were very ancient.

It is positive that North America was densely populated by civilized man, more than fifty thousand years ago, long before lakes Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario, and the Mississippi and Ohio rivers existed. Fifty feet below the present surface of the earth, near the shore of Lake Erie, the works of man were found on an old surface of the earth. A few miles south of Utica, New York, on a pine plain eighty-seven feet below the present surface the works of men were found, consisting of crucibles, blacksmith cinders, and copper coin. Twenty years ago, in one of the Eastern States, while some men were blasting rocks for a railroad, a cup was blown out of a solid rock—fifteen feet in depth. The rock was formed solid inside the cup, and around the top and bottom were bands of silver. One band was beautifully engraved, the other was chased work; the composition of the cup, no one at the time could tell. In California there is a mountain thirteen thousand feet in height which has upon its top an old river bed, where human bones of enormous size are found, which are claimed for the highest antiquity of man. But in England there is another claim of high antiquity.

Sampson Arnold McKay, of Norwich, England, in his Mythological Astronomy, gives a minute description of a marble quarry which has been worked through eleven strata or deposits of marble, to the twelfth deposit, where the works of man were plain and positive seventy feet below the surface. There were their tools, and there in the twelfth deposit was a block of marble which had been cut and shaped, and some wooden tools were petrified. How is this for a 6,000 year old work.

Forty years ago a petrified human being was blasted out of a solid rock in Spain, eighteen feet tall.

Pliny, a reliable historian, about 1,800 years ago, says that a mountain in the Island of Crete was split open by an earthquake, which formed a chasm, and in it was found a human skeleton twenty-five cubits tall, which was standing upright in the chasm.

In the Florida reef rocks, a human foot and jaw were found petrified. Geologists date the life time of this human being as far back as 35,000 years. Another human skeleton was found at New Orleans, under four cypress forests, with marine de-

posits between, and geologists say this person must have lived 57,000 years ago.

In a house on East Broadway, New York, is a black variegated marble fireplace in which is embedded a human jaw of extremely large size, showing all the front under teeth, and also unknown reptiles. The Tower of Babel, which stood on the plain of Shinar, was an astronomical emblem showing the motion of the poles of the earth among the stars, and not to climb up to and scale the walls of heaven. The Babylonians, being astronomers, were not foolish enough to build a tower to go up to heaven.

The Rev. C. C. Clark, of England, in his book entitled the "Wonders of Heaven," says the sun has by the inclination of the axis of the earth, been as far north as 45 degrees of latitude, and that the axis must have changed very suddenly to produce the effects which are still visible over the entire northern regions, showing that the whole country both sides of the Ural Mountains, along the river Obi and Oussa, all the way down to Lobiska, and even along the shores of the Arctic Ocean, tropical animals are found in abundance. Some of these animals are still entire, and not in the least decayed, but are frozen solid in the icebergs, such as the elephant and rhinoceros. This plainly proves that the equator once passed around the earth near the present poles, and suddenly changed to nearly north and south, and throwing the old ice poles where the present equator is.

Sampson Arnold McKay was the first and only man that unraveled the mysteries of the Hindoo sacred numbers. Several learned men attempted it, viz: Voltaire, Volney, Mirabeau, and Sir William Jones, but could not succeed. These sacred numbers are put upon imperishable monuments, and have remained there for 30,000 years. These numbers denote axial changes of more than one million years. They perfectly agree with the time and motion of the tropics, and where fractional time has been omitted for a number of years, it has been added up and put in by itself between those numbers embracing full time of the tropics, passing from the equator to the north and back.

Some twenty years ago, in Hindoostan, not far from the city of Benares, ancient ruins were found far under the surface of the earth, and among many strange things were found printing presses and type, evidently used for printing the Sanscrit language. Type were found set in a form or in blocks for printing Sanscrit, giving date something over 20,000 years. The Sanscrit is considered to be the most perfect language ever known. The antiquity of the human race must be far back in the past to compile so perfect a language. It is not saying too much when we say the human race in nearly their present form, have occupied this planet one million of years. But here comes the climax of the antiquity of man—the late discoveries near the Dardanelles, Turkey: Professor Calvert, of the Dardanelles, an eminent archaeologist and geologist, has made the most astonishing discoveries of the antiquity of man that has ever come within the full scope of science. At 800 feet of geological depth in a cliff of the Miocene period of the Tertiary age, he extracted a giant bone of a dietherium, or mastodon, on the convex side of which is deeply cut, or engraved, the figure of a horned quadruped with arched neck and lozen-shaped chest, long body, straight fore legs, broad feet; also, traces of several other figures, and in the same cliff he found bones of animals fractured longitudinally, evidently by the hand of man, for the purpose of extracting marrow—a practice of all primitive tribes.

The well known writer on the geology of Asia Minor, M. de Tschelatcheff, examined the cliff where these bones and other relics were extracted, and declared it to be the Miocene period. Prof. Calvert sent the fossils to Sir John Lubbock, who presented them to Bush and Jeffry. Those eminent authorities have identified among them the remains of dietherium, and the shell of a species of melania, both of which strictly belong to the Miocene period. The Professor says: "The remarkable fact is thus established beyond doubt, that the antiquity of man is no longer to be reckoned by thousands, but by millions of years."

—Messrs. Farleman and Chappell are in receipt of the choicest Baltimore Oyster improved by planting in Shoalwater bay. Having a lot on hand, now is your time to give the delicate bivalve a trial in Astoria, at the Parker House Restaurant, near the steamship dock.

School Books.—I have lately received all the different kinds of New School Books required to be used in this State, that can now be found in San Francisco. Also, Slate pencils, Blotting pads, a good assortment of Stationery, Drawing paper, CARD BOARD, Perforated paper, Ink, (Carbim, Purple and Black). Likewise a new stock of Crochery, Clocks and a large assortment of Lamp Chimneys, all of which will be sold cheap for cash.

L. W. CASE,
Chenamus st., Astoria.

TEAMING TO ORDER.—The undersigned wishes to inform the Public of Astoria, and surrounding country that he is now prepared with a good team, to attend to all kinds of hauling in Astoria. Orders left at H. B. Parker's Store, or at the Stables on Chenamus Street, promptly attended to.
F. TERMAN.

HOME NEWS.

—Our Oysterville correspondent reports that on the 5th inst. a portion of a schooner came ashore at Quinalt. She was a vessel of about two hundred tons.

—Wells, Fargo & Co.'s treasure box was robbed of \$8,000 in currency, on Wednesday last, it is supposed at Kalama, while the train was being made up for Tacoma. The money belonged to the government, and was being remitted to Major Rucker, for the payment of troops in Alaska.

—We are pleased to learn that the days of ruinous competition in the Oyster trade of Shoalwater bay have terminated. A consolidation of the leading companies has been effected, the Crellens, Espy & Co., and Washington Company combining, under the name of the Star Oyster Company—all outside Oystermen who choose to come into the scope of the new organization are privileged to do so. This movement will undoubtedly be of great benefit to that section of the country.

—The matter of a more proper and systematic improvement of the upper Wallamet river, is just now thoughtfully discussed by Benton, Polk, Linn, and other interested counties. The only way to remedy the troubles existing is to improve the river, and in case that the counties damaged for want of such improvements cannot effect a change by argument let the people of the grain region not forget that other argument on the day of election. Half the population of the State is centered there, and this fact ought to be equivalent to more than the \$15,000 recommended by Major Robert for river improvements on the upper Wallamet.

—Our Bruceport letter reports great activity in that quarter, incident to the resumption of business at the Riddell mill. Consolidation in the Oyster trade is about all that was being talked of, our correspondent says it is certainly the only thing that will benefit the Oystermen, at the present state of affairs, who, after years of hard labor, have nothing to show for their toil and privations, having had to pay exorbitant prices for goods, at the same time realizing only nominal rates for their oysters. Consolidation will remedy this, and wishes for its success are common and general among all classes. Nothing has been discovered concerning the missing man Mr. Green, and there is nothing among his papers to show where his people reside.

The Olympia Railroad has been duly incorporated. Object, the construction of a railroad from that place to intersect with the Northern Pacific at Tenino.

The Granger figures the profit on raising wheat in this State at thirty-two cents a bushel. This is based on an average selling price of eighty cents a bushel, which the Granger figures is the average during eleven years past. It computes the cost of raising wheat at forty-eight cents a bushel.

Geo. W. Simpson, Superintendent of the Farmers Warehouse in Albany, on Wednesday drew from the bins into the sacks and loaded on to the Grover and Beaver, thirty-two hundred and forty sacks of wheat—or 6,600 bushels. After filling, the mouth of each sack had to be sewed, and then weighed.

A Warm Springs letter says: "We have had a very mild winter so far, and from present indications it is likely to continue so for some time. We have only had about five inches of snow here, while at the Dalles they have had eighteen inches, a subject for weatherites to discuss, the distance being only but one degree, north. If every degree north makes a corresponding difference I don't

want to go to Alaska very soon. Our cattle here are fat enough for beef, having remained in the same good condition that they were in last fall. We expect to send your people beef fattened on our winter pasture, just to show you that we mean business by being out on the bunch grass.

Young Crouch, of Roseburg, who succeeded in producing an engine working super heated steam, and which has been the *ultima thule* of all inventors since steam was first used as a motive power, has obtained his patent.

—The Republican State Central Committee will meet at Portland, on Thursday, the 19th day of February, 1874, at 7:30 o'clock P. M., to arrange for the approaching State election, and for such other business as may be deemed proper. Col. R. R. Spedden is the committeeman from Clatsop county.

—On the last trip of the schooner Alaska from Ellensburg, the Captain, George Kimball, jumped overboard in a gale of wind off Cape Mendocino, on the 15th inst., and perished. No cause is known for the deed. He has relatives, we believe, residing in San Francisco.

—Mr. Gideon Tibbitts has exhibited to the newspaper people of Portland a small nugget of gold, picked up by one of his neighbors on the track of the Oregon and California Railroad. Unless the specimen was dropped by a miner having a plethora of sack, there must indeed be gold in East Portland, since the ballast in which it was found was excavated from the bank in the rear of Mr. J. B. Stephens' residence.

—Mr. D. F. Harrington, the manufacturer of Oregon Sparkling Cider, a truly excellent article, recently received an account of the sale of ten barrels sold in the San Francisco market. The price paid was eighty-five cents per gallon, which we are informed is a round figure for so large a quantity. In the San Francisco market it is much sought after by dealers, who bottle and place it upon the market as champagne.

—The discovery of Mount Jefferson pass, it is said, will prove of double value if it spurs up the sluggish enterprise of Portland to construct a good wagon road up the Columbia river. We have no jealousy of such a road, and welcome each and every movement toward additional development of resources and creation of new facilities for travel, as a gain to the people of the State.

Judge Waite, of Toledo, was unanimously confirmed as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

President Grant stated recently that he would not, under any circumstance, consent to be a candidate for a third term. He asserted that he only consented to become a candidate for the present term at the earnest solicitation of his friends and because it was attempted to drive him out of the contest.

—It has leaked out that Cabinet officers, and other smaller potentates, in Washington, have been dashing along of evenings on the beautiful avenues in elegant carriages behind fast horses, not at their own expense, but at the expense of the Contingent Funds of the several departments. They have, it appears, in some out-of-the-way quarter of the city, a Government livery stable, which is supported in all its parts at Government expense. Even the hostlers' salaries are said to come out of the Contingent Fund. Washington correspondents are busily engaged, in making revelations of some such practices as these, and there is scarcely any longer room to doubt that they are telling in the main the actual state of things. Evidences that Government officials are freely indulging in private luxuries at public expense, in various other forms not heretofore known to the patient public, have been produced, and the whole is very naturally exciting surprise and indignation among honest people. A searching investigation into these alleged private pilferings is promised soon.